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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08049.0011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Oscar L. AVANT et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3653  
Application No.: 09/652,707 ) Examiner: D. Schlak  
Filed: August 31, 2000 )  
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS ) Confirmation No.: 3487  
FOR PROCESSING MAILPIECE )  
INFORMATION BY AN )  
IDENTIFICATION CODE SERVER )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

In reply to the Office Action mailed April 7, 2004, the period for response to which has been extended through October 7, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as set forth in the following pages.

**Amendments to the Specification** are included in this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** are included in the attached replacement drawing sheets. The amendments are discussed in the **Remarks** section of this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper, beginning on page 70.

**Attachments** to this amendment include **replacement drawing sheets**.